

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SCCT-01 SP-02 SAM-01

L-02 USSS-00 SY-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 /078 W

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R 101015Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9257

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, BM, GE

SUBJECT: STATUS OF KIDNAPPED GERMAN TECHNICIAN STILL UNKNOWN

REF: RANGOON 574

1. AS OF EARLY MARCH 10 LOCAL TIME, NEITHER GUB NOR GERMAN EMBASSY HAD ANY INFORMATION ON STATUS OR WHEREABOUTS OF FRG AID TECHNICIAN GERT WINDHEIM WHO WAS SEIZED BY INSURGENTS MARCH 4. IDENTITY OF KIDNAPPERS IS STILL UNCONFIRMED.

2. FRG AMBASSADOR, WHO HAS RETURNED TO POST, HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING ACCESS TO SENIOR GUB OFFICIALS WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP WITH PROBLEM, AND THIS DIFFICULTY WILL NOW BE COMPOUNDED WITH CONVOCATION MARCH 10 OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY WHICH WILL PREOCCUPY ALL TOP-LEVEL OFFICIALS FOR NEXT TWO WEEKS OR MORE. BURMESE MAY BE AVOIDING SEEING FRG AMBASSADOR BOTH BECAUSE OF THEIR LACK OF INFORMATION AND BECAUSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH FRG POLICY HE WILL NO DOUBT URGE COMPLIANCE WITH ANY DEMANDS THE KIDNAPPERS MAY MAKE.

3. GUB CENSORS MARCH 6 PASSED OUTGOING WIRE SERVICE REPORTS OF KIDNAPPING, BUT INCIDENT STILL HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED IN LOCAL MEDIA.

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4. COMMENT: THE SEEMINGLY LONG DELAY IN OBTAINING ANY WORD OF WINDHEIM'S FATE IS NOT PARTICULARLY SURPRISING IN VIEW OF COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES AND THE MOUNTAINOUS, THINLY POPULATED TERRAIN AROUND THE BAWDWIN AREA. IF THE KIDNAPPERS ARE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED, IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME FOR THEM TO GET WORD OF THEIR DEMANDS TO THE GUB OR THE FRG. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY ARE DACOITS OR INSURGENTS WHO MERELY ATTACKED THE MILITARY ESCORT AS A TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WINDHEIM HAS BEEN KILLED AND HIS BODY NOT YET FOUND.

OSBORN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975RANGOO00612  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750083-0193  
**From:** RANGOON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750366/aaaachli.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 RANGOON 574  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <30 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

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Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STATUS OF KIDNAPPED GERMAN TECHNICIAN STILL UNKNOWN  
**TAGS:** PINS, BM, GE, (WINDHEIM, GERT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006